Upgradation of Vishakhapatnam airport

1025. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the works undertaken by his Ministry for upgradation of Vishakhapatnam and Gannavaram Airports at Vijayawada, indicating the progress made so far on these works; and

(b) by when all these works are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building with capacity to handle 700 passengers at a time, at Vishakhapatnam airport has been completed. This includes modern passenger facilities like Passenger Boarding Bridges, Conveyors, Escalators and Elevators. Construction of New Runway (length 3050mt.), Apron, taxi-track, Isolation Bay and other associated work have also been completed.

At Vijaywada Airport, extension and strengthening of runway, construction of New Apron, Taxi-way and Allied works are in progress to cater for operation of A 321 type of aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs.47.87 crores. The work is likely to be completed by September, 2009.

Facilities at airports in North Eastern Region

1026. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of expansion of infrastructure facilities of various airports in the North Eastern Region;

(b) how many more airports have been planned for Assam and other North Eastern States;

(c) whether Government would consider to provide more connectivity with other parts of the country as well as different countries of the world for the Lokpriya Gopinath Bordaloi (LGNB) Airport at Berjhar Guwahati; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The present status of expansion of infrastructure facilities of various airports in the North Eastern Region (NER) operated by Airports Authority of India (AAI) including Civil Enclaves (CE): Dibrugarh Airport - The airport is operational, work relating to modernisation of terminal building of 500 pax and arpon expanded to accommodate A-320 and ATR has been completed. The runway is planned to be extended by 640mt with an estimated cost of Rs.14 crores. Guwahati – the airport is operational. Terminal building has been extended to accommodate 1200 passengers. The work pertaining to extension of runway by 360mt and Apron extension to add 11 new bays is in progress. It is planned to have parallel taxiway and integrated terminal building. Jorhat (CE) – airport is operational. It is proposed expand apron and terminal

building. Lilabari – the airport is operational. The work pertaining to apron expanded to park 2 A-320 aircraft and terminal building to accommodate 400 pax has been completed. It is proposed to install Instrument Landing System (ILS) at this airport. Silchar (CE)–the airports is operational. The work pertaining to expansion of runway by 500 mt, apron expansion to park 3 A-320 and 1 ATR aircraft, provision of Aeronautical Ground Lights and ILS has been completed.

Shillong – the airport is operational. The work pertaining to new terminal building to accommodate 200 pax is in progress. It is planned to expand runway by 2286 mt for A-321 operations and expansion of apron to park 4 A-321 aircraft subject to availability of land. Tura-the airport is non-operational. It is proposed to extend runway to 1500mt for ATR 42 operations subject to availability of land. Imphal-the airport is operational. The work pertaining to night landing facilities including 5 Solar Power Obstacle Lights has been completed. The work pertaining to expansion of apron to accommodate 3 additional aircraft and taxiway construction is in progress. It is planned to acquire land as per master plan for future expansion. Lengpui-the airport is operational. The work pertaining to installation of ILS and DVOR is in progress. Dimapur-the airport is operational. The work pertaining to expansion of apron and taxiway including face lifting of terminal building is in progress. Pakyong (Gangtok)-the airport is under construction. The construction of greenfield airport for operations of ATR 72 aircraft started on 10.01.2009 and is targeted to be completed by 09.01.2012.

(b) There are proposals to set up Greenfield airport at Itanager in Arunachal Pradesh and Chiethu (Kohima) in Nagaland. A Greenfield airport at Pakyong in Sikkim is already under construction.

(c) and (d) The government has laid down route dispersal guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air Transport Services taking into account the need for air transport service of different regions of the country including North-East Region. At present, scheduled air services are available from Guwahati to Agartala, Aizwal, Delhi, Dimapur, Dibrugarh, Imphal, Jorhat, Lilabari and Silchar.

FDI in private domestic airlines

1027. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in private domestic airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The proposal to allow foreign airlines to invest in domestic airline is under examination.